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COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS ON THE
TRANSPORT OF DANGEROUS GOODS

Sub-Committee of Experts on the
Transport of Dangerous Goods
(Fifteenth session,
Geneva, 29 June-10 July 1998,
agenda item 5 (a))

MISCELLANEOUS DRAFT AMENDMENTS TO THE MODEL REGULATIONS ON THE TRANSPORT OF DANGEROUS GOODS

Other draft amendments

Listing and classification
Lithium batteries: Special Provision 188

Transmitted by the experts from France, Germany and the United States of America

Background

1. In document ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/1997/83, the expert from the United States proposed to amend certain mass limitations applicable to lithium cells and batteries in such a way that these limits would apply to the aggregate "lithium content" of the negative electrodes of the cells or batteries, rather than to the aggregate mass of "lithium or lithium alloy" in the cells or batteries (as is provided in the current Recommendations). As stated in that document, similar terminology should be employed in the text of Special Provision 188, in which mass limitations are also specified in terms of mass of "lithium or lithium alloy". Therefore, this document proposes that Special Provision 188 be amended accordingly.

2. Further information with regard to the concept underlying these proposals is presented in section 3 of document ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/1998/??.

Proposals

3. The following amendments are proposed to Special Provision 188:

(a) Amend (a) to read:

> For a cell with a liquid cathode, the lithium content of the anode, when fully charged, is not more than 0.5 g, and for a cell with a solid cathode, the lithium content of the anode, when fully charged, is not more than 1 g;

(b) Amend (b) to read:

> For a battery with liquid cathodes, the aggregate lithium content of the anodes, when fully charged, is not more than 1g, and for a battery with solid cathodes, the aggregate lithium content of the anodes, when fully charged, is not more than 2 g;

(c) Amend beginning of (f) to read:

> If, when fully charged, the aggregate lithium content of the anodes in a liquid cathode battery is more than 0.5 g, or of the aggregate lithium content of the anodes in a solid cathode battery is more than 1 g, it does not contain a liquid or gas...[remainder unchanged]

(d) Amend (g) to read:

> The lithium content of the anode of each cell, when fully charged, is not more than 5 g;

(e) Amend (h) to read:

> The aggregate lithium content of the anodes of each battery, when fully charged, is not more than 25 g;